

The Washington Merry-Go-Round

Adlai First to Ask End of Testing

By Drew Pearson

MOST PEOPLE have forgotten, but it was Adlai Stevenson, during the election campaign of 1956, who first demanded that the world stop nuclear testing because it was contaminating the air with poison.

Today, everyone except the Kremlin is in favor of the ending of nuclear testing. But five years ago, when Stevenson was running an uphill race against Mr. Eisenhower, nobody was for it except Adlai. Nixon poured cold water on the idea and accused Stevenson of "catastrophic nonsense." Mr. Eisenhower accused Stevenson of making a "theatrical gesture." He implied that Stevenson didn't know what he was talking about.

However, Stevenson stuck to his guns. He delivered a full-dress speech Sept. 23, 1956, demanding that nuclear testing be stopped—if Russia would agree. Various Democratic leaders begged Stevenson to lay off, told him to drop the subject—it was losing votes, killing his chances of election. Adlai, however, persisted.

Later, it developed that John Foster Dulles in a Cabinet meeting on Sept. 4 had proposed exactly the same suspension of nuclear testing and that President Eisenhower had concurred. But after Stevenson made his speech, the Eisenhower Administration reversed itself and trained all its guns on Stevenson.

The Eisenhower Administration continued testing until Oct. 31, 1958. On Aug. 12, some of the biggest bombs ever tested were exploded over the mid-Pacific, and on Oct. 30, the United States detonated an underground device at the Nevada proving grounds with a force equal to 20,000 tons of TNT.

Next day, all further American tests were stopped. Three days later, the Soviet fired its last test—until last week.

This was two years and a month after Stevenson's proposal.

Women and Rank

THE LADY from Maine who sponsored legislation per-

mitting Air Force women only one single top rank of colonel had occasion recently to watch proudly as her administrative assistant, Bill Lewis, was made a brigadier general.

Lewis, who has always outranked his boss, Sen. Margaret Chase Smith (R), in the Air Force—she is only a lieutenant colonel—says he handled the situation in the same manner as Gen. Deolittle riding in a Jeep with a WAC aide.

The car stopped. The lady looked at him in obvious distress.

"General," she said, "you outrank me, but I'm a woman. What do we do now?"

"Ma'am," answered the General, "beauty always precedes rank."

Nixon Go-Round

THE FORMER Vice President looked terrific when in Washington the other day. The tired lines have vanished from his face, which is now more pink than tan... News-women were burned up when Nixon held a luncheon in the Press Club bar where no women are admitted...

Nixon told friends that he was going up to New York "to see people" about the California governorship. The inference was that he was looking for financial backing... There seems no question but that he will run for Governor of California...

Nixon told friends he was more worried over Brazil than Cuba. Goulart, he said, is in the same category as Castro...

Nixon's new book will be written by himself. It will be on his own experience in public life. Earl Mazo, his old ghostwriter and friend, is doing much of the research.

Reviving Commerce

SECRETARY OF COMMERCE Luther Hodges, oldest member of the Kennedy Cabinet, and one of the most energetic, is putting new life into his Commerce Department. His proposed trade to Cabinet colleagues recently was that all vice-presidential dignitaries pay a visit to the Commerce Department.

The path was made for foreign visitors by a wreath on the foot of the Unknown Soldier to

Mount Vernon and, sometimes, the Lincoln Memorial. In addition, Hodges wants them to realize that commerce is the bloodstream of international understanding.

Secretary of State Rusk quickly adopted the idea and has now ruled that all foreign ministers and economic ministers shall include the Commerce Department in their itineraries.

Secretary Hodges feels that many foreign economic ministries have no idea of the use they could make of the Commerce Department to spread information regarding their countries in the United States and to receive information on American business.

Diplomatic Chaff

VICE PRESIDENT JOHN-SON didn't go to Berlin for the purpose of getting into German politics, but his visit nonetheless has strengthened the chances that Mayor Willy Brandt of West Berlin may become the new Chancellor of West Germany. Brandt is now given a fighting chance to unseat Chancellor Adenauer.

Director Allen Dulles of Central Intelligence this time gave advance warning that President Quadros of Brazil would resign. CIA agents picked up the news 10 days before Quadros suddenly bowed out.

One reason for the resumption of Soviet nuclear testing is the fact that Russia is considerably behind the United States in atomic artillery and small weapons. Red army leaders have been pestering Khrushchev for some time to give them a chance to catch up with the United States.

The State Department has reported to President Kennedy that the election in British Guiana of the left-wing regime headed by Cheddi Jagan is a disaster for democracy in Latin America. Secretary Rusk regards Jagan as a full-fledged Communist. He recommended that Guiana be disqualified from any American aid under the Alliance for Progress.

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